

Remarks

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on July 15, 2004. Claim 39 has been noted as being cancelled. Claim 46 has been amended to depend from claim 44. Claims 29-38 and 40-46 remain pending. Reconsideration and allowance of all the claims are respectfully requested.

Priority

The present application is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/153,361, now U.S. Patent No. 6,649,829 B2, which claims the benefit of U.S. Patent Provisional Application Serial No. 60/292,477. The specification has been amended to correctly reflect these priority claims, and the priority claims are accurately reflected on the Updated Filing Receipt mailed from the Patent Office on May 27, 2004.

The Office Action states that a newly-executed oath is needed if Applicants claim the benefit of Application Serial No. 10/153,361. This requirement is respectfully traversed for the following reasons. The oath filed herein in response to the Notice to File Missing Parts on May 4, 2004 is a copy of the oath executed and filed for the parent application. It is respectfully suggested that a new oath is not required in a continuation or divisional application. See M.P.E.P. 201.06(c) and 37 C.F.R. 1.63(d)(1). Reconsideration and removal of this requirement is respectfully requested.

Claim Objections

The numbering of the claims was objected to because claim number 39 was missing in the listing of claims. Claim number 39 has been shown in the listing of the claims included herewith as being cancelled. Reconsideration and removal of the objection are therefore respectfully requested.

Double Patenting

Claims 29-37, 41, and 44 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-11 of U.S. Patent No. 6,649,829 B2. This rejection is respectfully traversed. However, in the interest of moving this application into condition for allowance, a Terminal Disclaimer is included herewith.

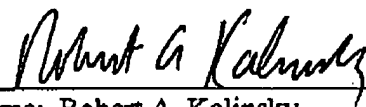
Consideration of the Terminal Disclaimer and allowance of claims 29-37, 41, and 44 are therefore respectfully requested.

Conclusion

Favorable reconsideration in the form of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Please contact the undersigned attorney with any questions.

Respectfully submitted,
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Attachment:

Appendix including a Terminal Disclaimer